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- 1. 2000 holiday season mailing dates announced
- NAVSUPHQ Public Affairs -- The Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Postal Policy Division in concert with the U. S. Postal Service and military postal officials from all of the services note that it's not too early to mail your 2000 Christmas cards and packages to and from military addresses overseas. In fact, everyone is encouraged to beat the last minute rush and bring holiday mail and packages to the nearest U.S. Post Office or APO/FPO military post office by the suggested dates listed below.
- For military mail addressed to APO and FPO addresses the suggested mailing date for air letters/cards and priority is Dec. 11. For parcel airlift and space available the date is December 4, and for surface mail the date is Nov. 6. For mail destined for all U.S. Domestic ZIP Codes the date is Dec. 11 for both Air letters/cards and priority mail; and Dec. 8 for space available mail.
- 2. Tentative decision reached in Naval Inventory Control Point A-76 study NAVSUPHQ Public Affairs -- The Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) announced that the Navy will retain in house performance of the Requisition Control and Part Number Processing function at the Naval Inventory Control Point (NAVICP) Philadelphia, Pa. This decision is the result of a competitive study conducted in accordance with streamlined cost comparison procedures of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76.
- The NAVICP study included a review of 26 civilian positions that perform the Requisition Control and Part Number Processing function for both standard (National Stock Number) and non-standard (part number) aviation requirements. Reductions achieved by attrition and reorganization enabled the activity to conduct a cost comparison using the streamlined study procedures. The decision to retain the operation in house was made after the streamlined cost comparison indicated it was more cost effective to continue to perform these functions with 14 Government personnel.
- 3. The Fleet gets new mattresses
- FOSSAC Public Affairs -- Sailors aboard the USS NASHVILLE (CL43) are sleeping better these days. They were the first to get their old mattresses replaced by a new innerspring type manufactured by National Industries for the Blind (NIB). This success was directly related to the combined efforts of Intra-Fleet Supply Support Operations Program (ISSOP), Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), and USS NASHVILLE. A total of four trailer loads (951 mattresses) were delivered from

the manufacturer to ISSOP Region One's Norfolk warehouse for staging and redistribution to the fleet. "ISSOP did a great job on the USS NASHVILLE, they offloaded approximately 200 mattresses within 30 minutes and the entire process took less than three hours" said Tim Barnard of NAVSEA.

The delivery to the NASHVILLE was only the first of the planned changeover for the entire fleet, which is expected to take approximately three years to complete. There will be 14,073 mattresses received at the ISSOP Hub and

delivered to the USS TRUMAN and USS NASSAU battle groups by Oct. 28th.

4. NAVSUP officer named 'Military Logistician of the Year'
NAVSUPHQ Public Affairs -- The 1999 Admiral Stan Arthur award winner as
Military Logistician of the Year is CDR (Sel) David C. Meyers, Supply Corps,
U.S. Navy, from the Naval Supply Systems Command. Meyers was selected as a
result of his efforts with as the Fleet Maintenance Integration Officer with
responsibility for the Standard Automated Logistics Tool Set (SALTS).
The Admiral Stan Arthur awards for logistics excellence recognize military and
civilian logisticians who epitomize excellence in logistics planning and
execution. A panel of flag officers and Senior Executive Service members
reviewed candidates and selected winners based on innovations which merit
special recognition.

Teamed with Defense Finance and Accounting Service and the fleets, CDR (Sel) Meyers' program pioneered the Navy's first encrypted electronic certification of credit card invoices which significantly reduced interest charges paid by the Navy.

CDR (Sel) Meyers was also instrumental in getting afloat financial data moved electronically, and in gaining the fleet's first ever "on demand" afloat access to the global transportation network and Joint Total Asset Visibility database through SALTS batch queries. Meyers is now assigned to Defense Logistics Agency Headquarters, Fort Belvoir, Va.

5. NAVICP employees receive DON Procurement Excellence award NAVICP Public Affairs -- The Naval Inventory Control Point's AN/SQQ-32 Mine Countermeasure Procurement Team received high honors recently when it was awarded the FY99 Department of the Navy Competition and Procurement Excellence Award.

In a special ceremony at the Pentagon, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition honored NAVICP employees Wilson Kury, Debra Garman, Charles Stover, Cloyd Hollenbaugh, and Mary McCormick for their innovative efforts in doubling Supply Material Availability (SMA) from 46 percent to 95 percent.

From Oct. 1, 1998 to Sept. 30, 1999, the team, based in Mechanicsburg, Pa., used an innovative approach to resolve difficult AN/SQQ-32 problems, which included low operational availability, high total ownership costs and less than adequate support performance. The AN/SQQ-32 is the Navy's primary dedicated mine-hunting variable-depth sonar used on Avenger and Osprey class mine hunters.

The five NAVICP employees, along with one Naval Undersea Warfare Center representative, reduced delivery schedules from an average of 18 months for AN/SQQ-32 repairable items by establishing Advanced Delivery Orders (ADO) in conjunction with a procurement to lay-in piece part material for long-lead items. Their accomplishments have paved the way for other NAVICP weapon system teams and will serve as a model for those who run into similar challenges.

6. Navy Integrated Call Center Team wins Admiral Stan Arthur award NAVSUPHQ Public Affairs -- The Navy Integrated Call Center (ICC) team, composed of members from the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Headquarters, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; the Naval Sea Logistics Center, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; and the

Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers (FISC), Norfolk, Va., and San Diego, Calif., is one of three teams selected for a 1999 Admiral Stan Arthur award. The Admiral Stan Arthur awards, presented annually, recognize military and civilian logisticians who epitomize excellence in logistics planning and execution. A panel of Flag Officers and Senior Executive Service members reviewed candidates and selected winners based on innovations meriting special recognition.

The Navy ICC team developed a responsive, web-based, single point of entry for all fleet requests to the internal and external logistics sources for assistance or information. This reduced the need to maintain a list of toll-free numbers and Internet web sites for a growing number of contractor support vendors. The team merged separate systems command "distance support" initiatives.

The call centers, located at FISC Norfolk and FISC San Diego, have been endorsed by the fleet commanders, the Naval Air Systems Command, and the Space and Naval Warfare Command. The team's selection recognizes their success in combining the efforts of multiple major claimants.

- 7. The new Military Star card special 9.9 percent introductory interest rate NEXCOM Public Affairs -- To help introduce the new Military Star card, the Navy is offering an introductory interest rate of 9.9 percent on all purchases made now through Nov. 11, 2000. The special rate will expire on Sept. 2, 2001. Any balance remaining after Sept. 3, 2001, will revert to the interest rate in effect at that time. This great introductory rate applies to all cardholders with an account in good standing. If you have not received your Military Star card, your NEXCARD will also qualify for this introductory offer. The Military Star card, which replaces the existing NEXCARD and DPP card, will be accepted at most Navy, Army/Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Exchanges. Customers can expect to receive their new card by the end of October. When you get your new card, your old NEXCARD should be destroyed. However, they are still usable through the end of 2000.
- 8. Holiday Gift 2000 catalog available in Navy Exchanges
 NEXCOM Public Affairs -- A new catalog from your Exchange Holiday Gift 2000 makes it easy to get ready for the holidays. This free catalog is full of
 holiday ideas and will be available at military exchanges worldwide.
 Holiday Gift 2000 offers 100 pages of unique merchandise not carried in
 military exchanges. Everything you need for decorating and entertaining during
 the holidays, as well as great gift-giving values toys, tableware, goody
 baskets, electronics and much more.
 Anyone with exchange privileges can order from these catalogs. Active duty
 military members of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well
 as military retirees, Reservists, Department of Defense civilians stationed
 overseas, exchange employees and their family members are authorized to shop.
 And don't forget you can also shop with us online at www.navy-nex.com.
- 9. William Harper named Acting Director Uniform Program Management Office NEXCOM Public Affairs William Harper has been named Acting Director of the Navy Exchange Service Command's (NEXCOM) Uniform Program Management Office. Harper relieves CAPT Greg Easton, SC, USN, who retired after 29 years in the Navy.

Patrons can get an early start on the holidays by picking up a copy of the

Holiday Gift 2000 catalog when you visit your local Navy Exchange.

"Bill has been with the Navy Exchange System for a long time," said RADM Richard T. Ginman, Commander, NEXCOM. "He understands our special customers and the importance of the Navy uniform. I know he will work diligently to continue to provide our customers with quality uniforms they can wear with pride."

Harper began his career with the Navy Exchange System in 1976 as a buyer at the Navy Exchange Complex, Washington, D.C. He has held many positions within the system, including merchandise specialist, merchandise section manager, exchange operations manager, deputy exchange manager, general manager and uniform operations manager. He was also the Exchange Program Specialist Fellowship, Office of Secretary of Defense, Washington, D.C.

10. Joint Readiness Training Center load out completed FISC Pearl Harbor Public Affairs -- Working around the clock in 12-hour shifts, FISC Pearl Harbor and U.S. Army personnel teamed up in September to safely and efficiently conduct Hawaii's largest military load out in many years. The 58-hour load out - which was preceded by a week of staging and months of planning - saw over 1,200 vehicles, helicopters, MILVANS, and other pieces of equipment loaded aboard the USNS SEAY (T-AKR 302), docked at Ford Island. Leading the massive load out were longshoremen from FISC Pearl's Terminals Department, augmented by a cost-effective mix of ISSOP stevedoring personnel and members of Naval Reserve cargo handling unit ABFC CHB 7, Great Lakes, Ill. Others with important roles in the endeavor were the 25th Infantry Division, the Military Sealift Command, and the Military Traffic Management Command. The 1,223 vehicles belonged to the Army's 25th Infantry Division (Light) from Schofield Barracks, deployed in support of Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) Exercise. SEAY departed on Sept. 7, bound for the National Training Center (NTC) in California, where it will offload 170 pieces of equipment. The remaining pieces will be offloaded at Beaumont, Texas and moved to Fort Polk, La., for use in JRTC.

Christened in 1998, the 950-foot long USNS SEAY is named for Army Sergeant William Seay, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry during the Vietnam Conflict. Operated by the Military Sealift Command, the SEAY's roll-on/roll-off (RO/RO) design enables fast, easy loading of Army helicopters, tanks, trucks, and other military vehicles. SEAY, which can sustain speeds of 24 knots, is MSC's newest and largest RO/RO ship and is the third in the Bob Hope-class of ships.

- 11. Historic Chinese visit tests FISC Pearl's LSC prototype FISC Pearl Harbor Public Affairs -- A September port call by two Chinese vessels heralded a new era at Pearl Harbor. The arrival of the Qingdao and Tai Cang not only marked a milestone in international relations, it also resulted in a successful test of FISC Pearl's prototype Logistics Support Center (LSC). Established in May 2000, the LSC prototype has a number of ambitious goals, most of which revolve around transferring a ship's logistics workload to a shore command having the technical skills and tools to get the job done. This transfer of duties will leave a ship with more time and resources to fulfill its warfighting mission, secure in the knowledge that its logistics requirements are being handled expediently by shore-based professionals. In Hawaii, those professionals are found at FISC Pearl. One of the LSC's more important roles will be that of the Logistics Service Representative (LSR), who will, in many respects, act as a "concierge for the fleet." Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, an LSR will be at the beck and call of a ship, fielding requests for a large variety of supply functions, such as parts ordering, material manifesting, customized receipt and delivery, material turn-in, and HAZMAT/HAZWASTE delivery and offload. In addition, the LSR will help coordinate husbanding services, such as the need for cranes or pier movements.
- 12. SAM wins Government Executive magazine acquisition award NAVSUPHQ Public Affairs -- The Naval Supply Systems Command's Service member Arranged Move Program (SAM) was recently named as one of the winners of the

Business Solutions in the Public Interest Awards.

Government Executive magazine, along with the Council for Excellence in Government and the Office of Procurement Policy, recognizes government people and programs that provide business solutions aimed at achieving agencies' results-based strategic goals.

The SAM program is designed to increase service members' involvement in the household goods movement process, and to improve the process by applying commercial household goods movement practices. It gives service members direct input in selecting the carriers that move their household goods, gives them intransit visibility of the shipments, and most important, full value repair and replacement protection for lost and broken items.

SAM represents an important Quality of Life improvement for military members in the movement of their household goods. Through August 2000, more than 5,000 customers used the SAM program with 95 percent indicating they were satisfied with their moving experience.

Damage claims also dropped dramatically with SAM. The number of claims went down five percent, and the average dollar value was reduced by 50 percent. SAM streamlines the administrative process through use of the Government Purchase Card and direct claims settlement through the carrier. Plus, the carrier provides full value protection for lost or damaged household goods items. Customer satisfaction is measured by service members completing surveys after each move.

SAM is available to service members moving from Bremerton and Whidbey Island, Wash., San Diego, Calif., Norfolk, Va., and Groton, Conn., to anywhere in the continental U.S.

- 13. Outstanding Department of the Navy Employees with Disabilities award FISC San Diego Public Affairs -- Teresa Bratcher is the winner of the Outstanding Department of the Navy Employee with Disabilities Award. Bratcher works for the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, San Diego, Workforce Development Division. She will be honored in a ceremony at the Pentagon on Oct. 11. This annual ceremony increases awareness of the valuable contributions to national security made by persons with mental and physical disabilities. "Bratcher's energy and enthusiasm for everything she does is truly inspiring to those who work with her," said Ann Braeutigam, her immediate supervisor. "She is an outstanding employee who overcomes tremendous obstacles every day in accomplishing her work and serving her customers."
- Bratcher is legally blind from chronic uveitis, an inflammatory eye disease she has had since childhood. The disease caused complete blindness in her right eye and the left eye is affected as well.

Bratcher has never let her own vision impairment keep her from using technology to enhance the way training is provided to our customers. In 1997, she was the team lead for a project to reinvent our method of providing annual mandatory training (Information Security, Safety and Physical Security). She worked with the various program managers to move this training to the FISC web page where all employees could easily access it. As a result, FISC SD achieved 99 percent compliance, which was the best rate of compliance FISC SD has had.

14. FISC Norfolk Wins A-76 to retain HAZMAT function FISC Norfolk Public Affairs - There were cheers at Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Norfolk on Friday, Sept. 22, when FISC Executive Director, Ms. Sid Etherington informed Hazardous Material Division workers their work would be retained in-house. The announcement follows the completion of a year-and-half-long Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 study, which determined FISC HAZMAT workers could better and more efficiently perform the work, as opposed to contracting it out.

"The HAZMAT A-76 study was a unique victory for FISC Norfolk in that it was the

first A-76 study guided by FISC from start to finish," said Etherington. During her talk with workers telling them of the victory, she praised their professionalism and efficiency, which were major factors in determining the HAZMAT function should be retained in-house.

The division will now implement its MEO -- most efficient organization -- plan and adjust division operations to meet self-determined performance and manning levels which enabled the HAZMAT functions to retain in-house.

15. FISC Reorganization retires one department and creates a new one FISC Norfolk Public Affairs - FISC Norfolk Customer Service Department employees were recognized in September, with a monetary award for their outstanding contributions to the command's mission. The ceremony also marked the end of FISC Norfolk's Customer Operations Department and heralded a new direction for service to the fleet. Customer Operations was created in October 1990, by consolidating numerous divisions from the old Inventory Control Department. Like the reorganization 10 years ago, the department's current restructuring is part of a major command reorganization. "FISC Norfolk is evolving into a different organization, which will be made up of two major work centers," said CAPT Bill Kowba, FISC Norfolk's Commanding Officer, in his opening remarks at the ceremony. October, the Customer Operations Department will become the Logistics Support Center (LSC) and will support ships on three waterfronts: in Portsmouth at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, at the Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, and at the Norfolk Naval Station piers. The LSC concept resulted from a collaborative effort among FISC Norfolk, the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), and Fleet Type Commanders. Its purpose is to support the war fighters by taking workload off ships,

FISC's goal, as it stands up the initial phase of the Logistics Support Center is to provide a shore support cadre of functional experts trained in using state-of-the-art telecommunication, and workload tracking technology. The LSC will schedule and track husbanding services for fleet units to ensure optimal response to customer needs requiring a minimum of resources.

providing meaningful metrics and accountability, and improving or maintaining

the crew's quality of life.